

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-06

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FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7457

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT OF SPAIN 0485

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR OVIP (WILLIAMS, ERIC) TD US

SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER WILLIAMS RETURNS FROM THE US

1. WHEN I MET PRIME MINISTER DR. ERIC WILLIAMS AT THE AIRPORT FRIDAY EVENING FEB 28 UPON HIS RETURN FROM THE USA AND ASIA, HE WAS WARM IN HIS APPRECIATION OF WASHINGTON VISIT.

2. FINANCE MINISTER GEORGE CHAMBERS, WHO ACCOMPANIED DR. WILLIAMS FOR MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT, SOUGHT ME OUT SHORTLY AFTER ARRIVAL AND WAS QUITE EFFUSIVE IN DESCRIBING THE WARMTH OF THEIR MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT AND DR. KISSINGER. HE NOTED THE NUMBER OF SMALL COURTESIES WHICH THE PRESIDENT HAD EXTENDED (INCLUDING WALKING OUT TO THE CAR AT THE END OF THE MEETING) AND WHICH HAD BEEN NOTED AND APPRECIATED. HE REPEATEDLY SAID THAT THE DISCUSSIONS WENT "VERY, VERY WELL" AND THAT IT WAS A "GREAT MEETING." HE NOTED WITH REGRET THE PRIME MINISTER'S INABILITY ALSO TO ACCEPT THE SECRETARY'S LUNCHEON INVITATION, BUT STATED THAT THEY HAD HAD TO CHANGE AND CANCEL SOME IMPORTANT INDUSTRIAL MEETINGS IN THE SOUTHWEST TO MEET WITH THE PRESIDENT AND IT HAD BEEN QUITE DIFFICULT ON SUCH SHORT NOTICE TO EXTEND THE STAY IN WASHINGTON LONGER.

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3. THE PRIME MINISTER STATED THAT HE HAD INVITED
SECRETARY KISSINGER TO COME TO TRINIDAD WHEN FEASIBLE
AND NOTED THAT HE WOULD BE MADE MORE THAN WELCOME.

4. ABOVE REMARKS WERE ALL MADE TO ME IN PRESENCE OF
VARIOUS OTHER HIGH GOTT OFFICIALS AND THEREFORE
STRONG IMPRESSION WAS LEFT THAT PRESIDENT'S INVITATION
AND MEETING HAD LEFT SIGNIFICANT POSITIVE IMPACT.
RICH

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